the Lions' Pride

Of Saint Leo University

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2003 VOLUME XXXVIII NO. 1 SINCE 1965

Today

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If you've ever had trouble with a roommate, read these handy tips from our guest columnist. Page 5

The class of 2007 begins its college career at orientation

Saint Leo's largest freshmen class spent the weekend meeting new friends and adjusting to a new life.

MICHELLE BONNER
The Lions' Pride Staff

SAINT LEO - What is the best way to get acclimated to Saint Leo University? Go to Disney World, of course.

More than 438 orientation attendees enjoyed the hospitality of Florida's famous mouse during orientation weekend. Although Disney World is a wonderful perk, orientation has a higher purpose.

"It acclimates the new students to the University," explained Eric Vaughn, orientation coordinator. "It gives them the opportunity to register for class and meet their advisors. It also gives them an opportunity to meet new friends."

In addition to the freshmen, orientation also helps transfer students from other universities and community colleges to adjust to campus.

"Orientation was a great way to make new friends. I was all about Disney!" junior Joshua Jones, a transfer student.

Photograph by Tasha Fredericks

Saint Leo University's incoming freshmen participated in many activities during the weekend.

To help with the acclimation process, specially trained Saint Leo upperclassmen, known as O-leaders, worked side-by-side with the incoming students and their parents. According to Vaughn, the O-leaders were "the freshmen's first expert on the University. They helped with check-in, they were tour guides, and they assisted in the testing areas when needed."

"The OLs' enthusiasm was infectious." said Joshua Davis, freshman.

Although many freshmen enjoyed the social activities, some found the information sessions and the meetings more beneficial.

"My favorite part of

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Dade City couple pledges first $1 million gift to Saint Leo

The couple wants to show their continued commitment.

BY JACQUI CASH
Assistant Director of Public Relations

SAINT LEO – Saint Leo University President Arthur F. Kirk, Jr. announced the first $1 million charitable gift in the history of the University. The pledge from Glen '61/'63 and Gail Greenfelder of Dade City, Fla., is the first major commitment to the University's comprehensive fund-raising campaign, the first capital and endowment drive in the history of the University.

Greenfelder, a prominent Dade City attorney, is an alumnus of Saint Leo College Preparatory School and later Saint Leo College. He currently serves as chair of the University's board of trustees. Gail Greenfelder is a business leader in Dade City.

"In February, when the board enthusiastically and unanimously authorized the administration to initiate a campaign, we all knew that the first few gifts would set the standard," said Kirk. "This is a great way to begin."

The Greenfelders said they had discussed how they wanted to help the University in its first ever fund-raising campaign. "Saint Leo has meant so much to both of us and this is a way to say thank you and show our continuing commitment to the University," Glen Greenfelder said. Gail Greenfelder added, "We wanted to do something that would be both significant for the University in its own right and also help to get the campaign off to a good start."

Sheila McDevitt '60, senior vice president and general counsel for TECO and vice chair of the Saint Leo board of trustees, expressed her

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Opinions

EDITORIAL

Welcome to Saint Leo University Class of 2007

BY NATASHA FREDERICKS
Editor

SAINT LEO - Welcome to Saint Leo, new and returning students! Yes, it is that time of year again. Sigh. Summer has passed, and we're back to school.

It's all about back to school shopping, clubs, sports, and parties. It's time to leave home and take your first, fresh breath as independent adults. College life may seem frightening and a little intimidating, but do not worry. It will be fine. Breathe in the freedom and enjoy it!

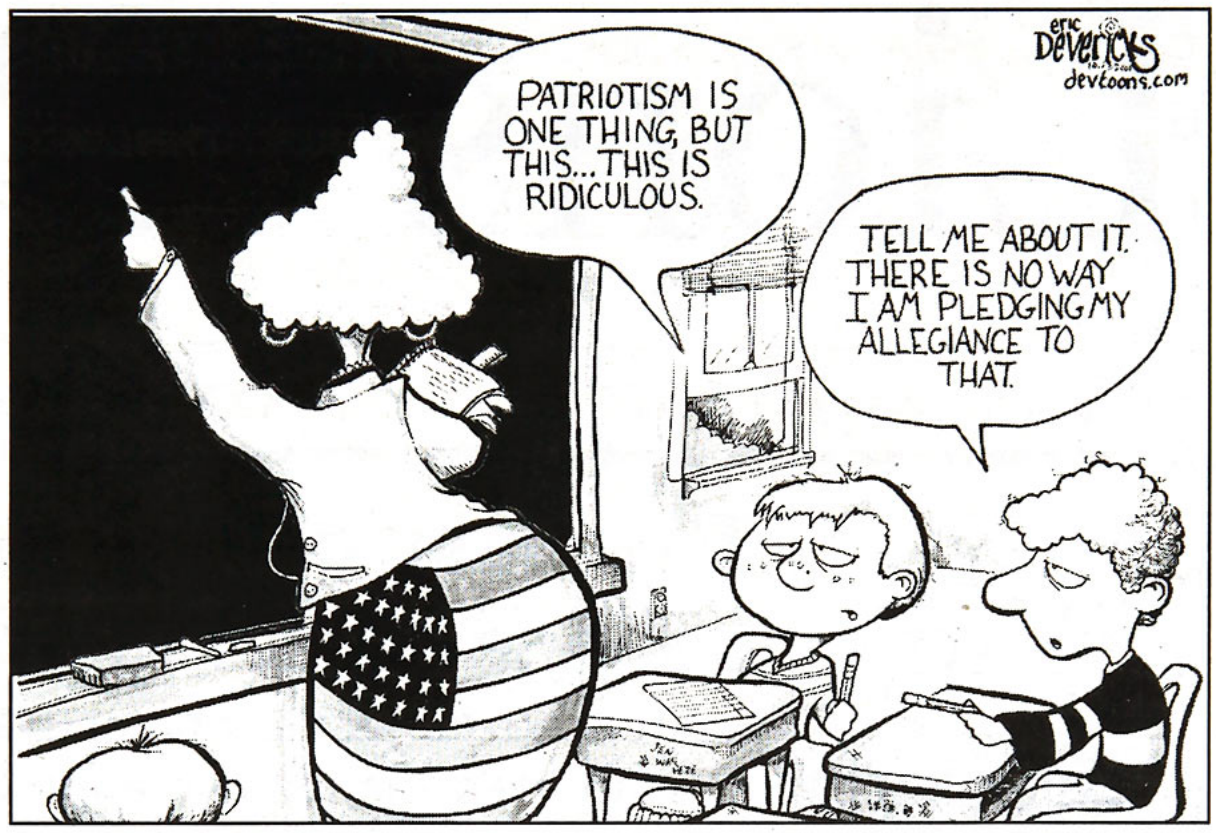
You don't have as many responsibilities in college as you would if you were on your own, but you still get to be independence; and yes, like you begged to do when you were a small child, you can stay up as late as you want!

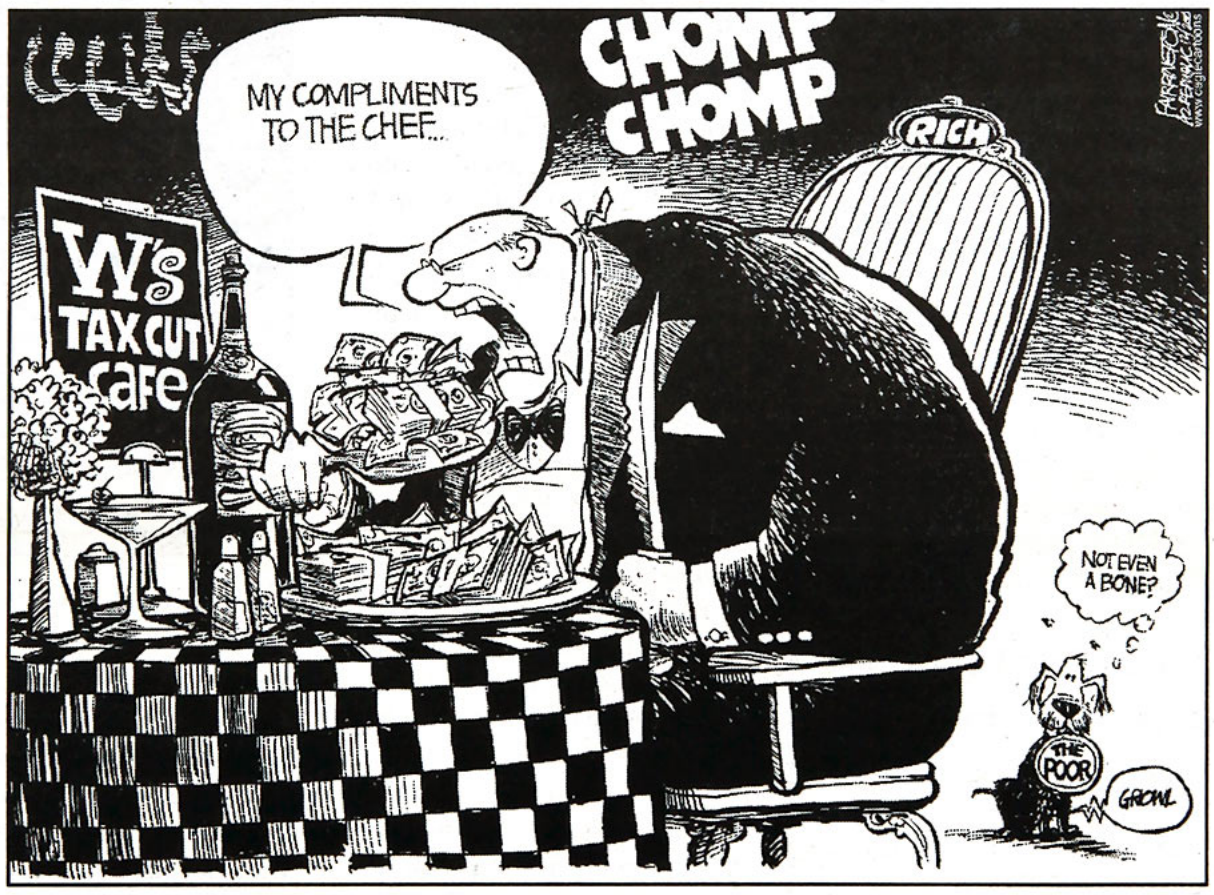
It's time to study hard and party hard. However, there is no reason why you can't do both, as long as you keep it balanced. For all of you freshmen who want to know the secret to success, here it is… lean in close, and don't let too many people know: As soon as you're done with classes go somewhere and study. Go to the library, the Learning Resource Center, or somewhere quiet so you can study. Then, do all your homework. Afterward, go back to your dorm and have a good time. Go out, stay in, do whatever you like. There is always plenty of time to work and play, and one is no good without the other.

Some of your friends may be up all night studying, but since you completed your work, you will be out having a good time. It is really that simple. What? You don't believe me? Ask some upper classmen; they will tell you the trick to success is to balance work and play.

In addition, get involved on campus. You can join clubs, pledge a fraternity or sorority, write for the newspaper, sing in the chorus, or act in the school play. Just get out there and have a good time. These could be some of the greatest years of your life.

As for you upper classmen, good to see you again and don't forget, all work and no play… well you know the rest. Have fun, be safe, and don't forget to watch and obey those after school specials!





EDITORIAL

Free speech on campus

FROM THE MINNESOTA DAILY
(University of Minnesota)

(U-WIRE) MINNEAPOLIS — In the politically charged climate that is higher education, university officials have to balance the maintenance of a constructive learning environment with the protection of First Amendment rights. Attempts to strike this balance are often codified in campus speech and conduct codes. Yet, increasingly, an inappropriate balance is being struck: Despite remonstrations from university administrators that speech codes do not inhibit free speech, implicit and explicit codes that restrain protected expression are alive and well on campuses across the nation.

Campus speech codes, widely adopted in the 1980s and now firmly entrenched on many campuses, have increasingly silenced unpopular or offensive discourse at many higher educational institutions.

Even "annoying" speech is now considered harassment on some campuses: A recent Shippensburg University statement defined harassment as "unsolicited, unwanted conduct which annoys, threatens, or alarms a person or group." Socrates, the gadfly of Athens, who alarmed and annoyed his hometown's upper crust, apparently would not be allowed to speak out at Shippensburg University.

Some universities are going to great lengths to prevent the uncontrolled confrontation of ideas on campuses. Texas Tech University is one of several institutions that blatantly violates First Amendment rights by confining controversial speech to "free speech areas."

Most often these policies are rooted in good intentions: crowd control and harassment prevention. However, the problem is that many universities and colleges have defined "harassment" so vaguely that it often includes disquieting or even annoying speech and writing. It is this improper definition of harassment that has led to the ridiculous policies noted above.

Universities are meant to combat ignorance through education — not through speech-code enforcement. While universities and colleges must stamp out true harassment, such as sexual and racial badgering, an unfiltered dialectic of ideas and opinions must be encouraged on campuses. In a free society our cherished beliefs and viewpoints are often challenged and occasionally castigated. Instead of appealing to authorities to silence thoughts that make us uneasy or simply annoy us, we must hear them out and use our intelligence and patience to argue against ideas we find erroneous or immoral. Only then can we call ourselves truly educated.

Photograph by Tasha Fredericks

Freshmen spent part of orientation getting to know their fellow teammates.

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orientation was the info sessions and meetings," said freshman Sarah Froelich. "The games I'd rather have skipped. I mean, how often am I going to need to rely on ten other kids to keep myself from falling off a pair of cinder blocks?"

No matter the reason, both students and staff were pleased with the results from orientation.

"This year, the theme for orientation was 'Showtime in Leoland,' and the stars were truly shining! All of the new students were excited to become part of the Saint Leo community and displayed their enthusiasm throughout the weekend, said Ana DiDonato, director for student involvement. "They really began developing as a class. Everyone at Saint Leo worked very hard to make this the orientation the best. I am very proud of the program!"

The orientation program began the Thursday before Labor Day. New students arrived on campus that day and were welcomed with the traditional matriculation ceremony, which was held in the Marion Bowman Activities Center.

This class has broken numerous records at Saint Leo.

The class of 2007 consists of 382 freshmen and 91 transfer students, according to Gary Bracken, vice president for enrollment.

"There are 30 percent more freshmen than last year's class, with 26 states and 16 countries being represented," Bracken said. "Also, the average SAT score has increased 39 points, when ten points is significant."

He believes this is the largest class since at least 1970, which is how far back Saint Leo has records.

"Applications for this class were up nearly 45 percent, meaning, five applications were received for every available freshmen slot," Bracken said.

Bracken believes the increase comes not only from students telling their friends about Saint Leo, but because tuition has remained at a more reasonable rate than many other private universities and is competitive with many state universities.

Photograph by Tasha Fredericks

Saint Leo University's incoming freshmen were divided into orientation groups. This group shows its teamwork abilities.

Photograph from Public Relations

The finishing touches are completed for an orientation activity.

WRITE HERE

Send letters to the editor and guest columns to The Lions' Pride newsroom, Portable #4.

Or, send your letter/column by e-mail to monarch@saintleo.com

Letters and guest columns must be submitted with student's name, year and major. Faculty and staff members must include rank and department.

Please include a phone number (not for publication) so we can verify authorship.

All letters and columns are subject to editing.

The Lions' Pride reserves the right not to publish any letter or column.

WANTED:

The Lions' Pride wants YOU
to write for US.
You've seen our newspaper.
If you'd like to be a part of it,
please attend our next meeting.

Monday, September 22
1:30 p.m. - 2 p.m.
Portable 4, West of St. Edwards Hall

Briefs

Exercise classes open to the Saint Leo Community

A Yoga class is in session on Thursday from 12 to 12:50 p.m. in the Fitness Center. For more information, call Rex Shepherd at ext. 8420.

Recreation is sponsoring a yoga class on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 8 p.m. in the Fitness Center, starting Tuesday, Sept. 9.

An aerobics class will also take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 to 9 p.m., starting on Tuesday, Sept. 9. A water aerobics class is already in session on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30 to 1 p.m.

Staff on the move

As the University celebrates its largest freshman class in decades, it's also experiencing a growth in its faculty and staff. And to accommodate for some new faces, a number of staff members are taking up offices in new and bigger places. On Friday, August 22, the departments of Academic Assessment & Evaluation program, Accounts Payable, Procurement and Staff Accounting showed off their new and spacious offices at The Villas. The entire University community was invited out for a tropical party to celebrate the move, and they were greeted with delicious food, drinks, and smiling coworkers. The Villas sits across the street from Holy Name Monastery and is located at 12203 Wichers Road.

Saint Leo ranks first for business degrees to African-Americans

The University awarded 334 business degrees to African-Americans in 2001-2002.

BY PUBLIC RELATIONS
A special to The Lions' Pride

SAINT LEO. – More African-American students graduate with a business degree from Saint Leo University than from any other college or university in the nation, according to a recent report from "Black Issues in Higher Education" magazine. Using statistics from the U.S. Department of Education based on 2001-2002 graduation data, the magazine annually identifies the top 100 institutions of higher education granting bachelor's degrees to minorities.

Saint Leo awarded 334 bachelor's degrees in business to African-American students in 2001-2002, which was 30 percent of the total students to receive business degrees at the University for the year. Overall, Saint Leo awarded 519 bachelor's degrees to African-Americans in 2001-2002, which ranks the University 24th in the magazine's survey of total bachelor's degrees granted.

"Saint Leo enrolled its first African-American student in 1898, although it was still illegal at that time to do so," said Dr. Arthur F. Kirk Jr., president of Saint Leo University. "Providing educational opportunities to people from many backgrounds is consistent with the Benedictine value of respect which directs us to value all individuals' unique talents."

Saint Leo has a 30 percent minority student population with locations in five states at more than 15 locations at community college campuses and military installations in addition to the main university campus just north of Tampa, Fla.

Ready for Occupancy

Photograph from Public Relations

Many returning students moved into one of the University's two new residence halls. The halls feature two bedroom and four bedroom suites with semi-private baths, living areas, and kitchenettes. The residence halls are capable of housing 180 students.

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appreciation of the Greenfelder's support. "Glen and Gail's commitment to the University has set a high challenge for the board, alumni, and friends of the University," said McDevitt. "Their leadership is already having a positive impact and will help to ensure the success of the campaign."

The fund-raising drive, a comprehensive campaign expected to last five years, will increase the University's endowment, support the construction of new student housing, build a new school of business, enhance academic programming, expand the student center, and upgrade athletic facilities. No goal has been announced for the campaign, which is now is its initial quiet phase, but working numbers ranging from $15 million to $25 million have been reported.

Glen and Gail Greenfelder's pledge of $1 million will have a positive impact on Saint Leo's fundraising drive.

Photograph from Public Relations

Guest Columnist

How to slowly drive your roommate mad

BY KEN BASIN
Daily Trojan (U. Southern California)

(U-WIRE) LOS ANGELES — It's tradition here at the Daily Trojan for one of our distinguished Lifestyle columnists to use the Orientation issue to offer some kind of wise and sage-like advice to incoming students. The hope is to simultaneously entertain them and to offer them counsel and comfort during this often-awkward transitional period.

In reviewing precedent to both gain inspiration for my own column and to avoid repetition of those that have come before, I find that more often than not, writers default to the entirely expected, honestly useful and completely overdone "Roommate Survival Guide."

The Roommate Survival Guide is a noble effort, but I've always believed that while harmony can be achieved with experience, glorious discord takes some extra guidance. It is with this notion in mind, combined with my loathing of rehashing the work of my predecessors, that I present to you something a bit different.

In time, by simply obeying your own common sense, you should find common ground with your roommate and learn to get along. I, however, offer you what common sense cannot: a few fun ways to confuse the hell out of your roommate after — or maybe before — you've gotten to know one another.

Whether you're looking for a practical joke of grand scope, or maybe just to make your new roommate scratch his head a little, hopefully you'll find something in my Roommate Confusion Guide to your liking. As a disclaimer, some of these I've made up, and some I've heard over the years, so don't act shocked and disillusioned if any of these seem vaguely familiar.

"Lawn Furniture"

Shortly after you're settled into your room and have your furniture arranged in a comfortable set-up, take careful measurements and prepare a rough schematic of the room's layout, including the position of items on the furniture pieces. While your roommate is in class, contract some friends to help you move everything in the room to the lawn in front of your dorm building and set it up in its exact arrangement, as it would appear if it were actually in place. Sit at your desk doing work and act completely natural when your roommate arrives. Greet him warmly, ask him about his class, and offer him something from the fridge.

"Spending Cash"

Give your roommate a small allowance each week. If he asks why, explain that it's your responsibility, and you're not going to shirk it. If he asks for more, tell him to get a job and to stop mooching off you. Cut off the allowance.

"God Bless America"

Recite the pledge of allegiance every morning when you wake up. Invite your roommate to join you, and act genuinely offended if he declines.

"I'm Not Bitter"

Write reply letters to the schools who rejected your applications last year informing them that you will be unable to accept their refusal to offer you a position at their university. Ask your roommate to proofread it for you.

"Musical Merchandise"

Every day, subtly rearrange the items on your roommate's desk, never acknowledging that you've done so. Switch the positions of adjacent dressers, lamps, etc. One day, completely switch the locations of you and your roommate's beds or desks and let him come home to find you working or sleeping in what seems to be the wrong place.

"Scurvy Dogs"

Talk like a pirate — constantly. Shockingly effective.

"Negotiations"

If you feel your roommate has somehow wronged you, leave a declaration of war on his desk that outlines your list of grievances in detail. If he fails to acknowledge it, leave him fake bulletins outlining your military victories and slowly encroach on his territory in the room. Demand formal treaty negotiations, write out your decision and sign it.

"Put on a Happy Face"

Smile. All the time. I don't think you realize how creepy that really is.

"Gourmet Cooking"

Hide wrapped foods in the bottom of your trash can. If you feel like a snack while your roommate is around, very obviously rummage around the can and eat whatever you find there. Shrug and explain that it tastes better than EVK anyway.

"Russian Water"

Fill an empty vodka bottle with plain water and constantly take swigs from it any time you're in the room with your roommate present. Toward the end of the night, get surly and insist that you do homework better when you've had a few.

"Light Reading"

Read the newspaper and then shred it while your roommate is away. After he arrives, sprawl out on your bed with the pile of shreddings in front of you, intently reading every strip. Ask him what he thinks about the day's news. The next time he leaves the room, dump the entire stack of shredded paper on his desk or bed and explain that you thought he might want to read some of the articles when he has a chance.

Changing lifestyles can cause weight gain

BY TITANIS JAHROMI
Daily O'Collegian (Oklahoma State U.)

(U-WIRE) STILLWATER, Okla. - The organized routine of high school switches from fit to fat when students go off to college, when the fast-paced hectic schedule of college life doesn't seem to burn enough calories from late-night fast food runs to keep those few extra pounds off the scale.

The average college freshman gains approximately 8 pounds during their first year of school, said Rachel Shreffler, health education coordinator at Oklahoma State University Health Services. Weight gain occurs when students do not exercise as much, Shreffler said.

Late-night studying and odd schedules contribute to students' bad eating habits, which include eating more fast food and more food intake, she said.

Students said fast food played a major part in gaining weight, drinking too much alcohol and the amount of unhealthy foods offered on campus.

"I gained weight my freshman year because I didn't exercise and drank too much beer," said Laural Boeckman, child and family services senior.

Working out and cutting back on fried foods and alcohol consumption helped her lose 10 pounds, Boeckman said.

Anna Neal, nutritional science sophomore, said she noticed her friends gaining weight their freshman year.

"They don't have set schedules for exercise — some people get stressed out about school and eat more," Neal said.

Since more people are concerned about their health, many diets are available to help someone lose those unwanted pounds. Also, exercising at least 30 minutes a day can make a difference, according to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Web site.

"A safe plan is to eat 300 to 500 fewer calories a day to lose one to two pounds a week," according to the Web site.

Gaining extra weight can cause high blood pressure and heart disease, according to the site. Setting sensible goals based on a person's height, build and age are ways to lose weight safely and effectively. "Students need to balance their caloric output with intake," Shreffler said.

According to the site, tips for cutting calories and fat include: (1) eating plenty of vegetables, fruits and grains, (2) eating small, single servings of fatty foods, (3) eating less sugar and fewer sweets, (4) drinking less alcohol or no alcohol, (5) replacing ice cream with fat-free frozen yogurt, (6) replace sour cream with fat-free or low-fat plain yogurt, (7) eating leaner fish, poultry and meat, and (8) broil, roast and steam foods.

Arts & Entertainment

MUSIC IN REVIEW

Ex-Van Halen frontman still singing, drinking

BY ANTHONY ZOUBEK
The Daily Vidette (Illinois State U.)

(U-WIRE) NORMAL, Ill. - During their immensely popular summer concert tour, David Lee Roth and Sammy Hagar used soaring vocals and drum kit V-kicks to determine who really was the best Van Halen frontman. According to most critics, Hagar came out on top with one show-stopping blow after another to counter Roth's bizarre onstage frolic.

A balding Roth (looking like Kahn from the "Star Trek" sequel) rode around in Army Jeeps, pretended to charter Afghanistan caves, did kung-fu moves and intermittently twirled bamboo canes and samurai swords to amuse the girls in silver spandex cat outfits strutting at his side.

Hagar merely rocked the house with his radio staples "I Can't Drive 55," "Give to Live," "Dreams," "Right Now," "Top of the World," "Mas Tequila," "Little White Lies," "Heavy Metal," "Finish What You Started" and "Why Can't This Be Love?" At many of the summer tour's venues, performances were recorded. DVD and double-CD releases of the best performances were in the works.

Knowing that a document of his asininity would do little good to an already fledgling reputation and casino-bound act, Roth pulled out of the recording project.

Hagar, however, refused to give fans the runaround. With his live, single-disc release "LIVE: Hallelujah," he and his touring band, The Waboritas, should find themselves standing on top of the VH-fan world. The album crackles with the authenticity of being a live performance. Literally. Recorded like an unsanctioned bootleg of Hagar's most guest-filled performance (with VH bassist Michael Anthony, former VH front man Gary Cherone and checkered members of the rock band Boston appearing through their vocal chops), the album puts listeners at dead center stage with a mini tape recorder in their hands.

Thank God they hit the pause button when Roth drove by in his Jeep.

Rancid returns to signature sound with latest album

BY CYNDY WITZ
The Lantern (Ohio State U.)

(U-WIRE) COLUMBUS, Ohio - As the sixth addition to Rancid's discography, "Indestructible" is a refreshing return to a style of punk from which the band seems to veer every other album.

Just about anything, though, seems better then Rancid's last recording endeavor. The 2000 self-titled album was a contrived attempt at a more aggressive punk, featuring 22 yell-your-absolute-loudest tracks crammed into only 39 minutes.

"Indestructible," a far cry from "Rancid," is more honest. The band doesn't repeat its mistake of desperately attempting to repossess the hearts of its stubborn old-school punk fanatics who abandoned the band after the more anarchist yet surprisingly melodic "Life Won't Wait" (1998). Featuring reggae and a little bit of blues wrapped up in to a jangly variation of ska, "Life Won't Wait" was a refreshing change, but the band is clearly more comfortable sticking to their deep-rooted sound in "Indestructible." Sharing the same name as the album, track one is a highlight. The high-energy song is intended to pay homage to The Ramones being "too tough to die."

"Spirit of '87," another high point, is a fiery and nostalgic recount of a young desire to Rock and Roll: "Even when punk rock was way out, it was always in my blood." It's also sad in some ways, telling of the band's unintentional isolation from their families (presumably because of their music).

The best song on "Indestructible" is "Stand Your Ground," written for the American homeless. The melody isn't too impressive, but it's evident the lyrics are genuine, thus the message comes across successfully.

The rest of the album is, for the most part, enjoyable.

What "Indestructible" lacks, however, is a certain level of creativity. Instead of utilizing their song writing capabilities, guitarists/vocalists Tim Armstrong and Lars Frederiksen revert to the cliche punk rock characteristic of substituting adjectives with expletives — for no apparent reason — and more painfully, bouncing between a maximum of two or three major chords per song.

What's also disappointing is how Armstrong and Frederiksen so often double on the same voice part when their fan base knows they are musically capable of harmony, an ability the band should embrace rather than smother with unison repetitive chorus.

Somehow, though, the band's stylistic homecoming succeeds in distracting the listener from these shortcomings.

Overall, "Indestructible" is good. It boasts an impressive 19 tracks, which, unlike "Rancid," average way longer than 1.7 minutes per song.

If anything, Rancid deserves to be applauded for not succumbing to an invasive pop scene, something the whole world seems guilty of.

In a time when Rolling Stone features (on its cover, no less) Mary Kate and Ashley Olsen for being hot and insanely wealthy and Ruben Studdard for adding melismas to watered down remakes, Rancid has stood its ground and remained loyal to its punk background.

MOVIES IN REVIEW

'Le Divorce' confuses Midwestern audiences

BY COLIN PERKINS
The Lantern (Ohio State U.)

(U-WIRE) COLUMBUS, Ohio - As a Midwest American, I admittedly have never understood the whole French thing. It's always been my suspicion a large portion of French culture makes no sense to Americans. I also suspect those very same Americans who don't like or understand French culture and art end up praising it for fear of looking like they just don't get it. My fear is that the same will happen with "Le Divorce," a very boring film that seems perfect for Americans to unjustly hype.

This film is impossible to put into one specific genre because the numerous storylines are so varied. As a result, a constant tone is never established, and it is difficult to tell what is happening.

In the beginning, young American Isabel Walker (Kate Hudson) arrives in France to visit her pregnant sister Roxeanne (Naomi Watts), a poet living in Paris with her French painter husband Antoine. Apparently, everyone in France is a painter, poet or some other form of sophisticated socialite. I'm not exactly sure how the trash gets picked up or the mail delivered in France. Meanwhile, Antoine packs up and leaves Roxeanne. One would think this would make Roxeanne a sympathetic character, but it just doesn't because Watts plays the role as such a pathetically weak woman, wanting only to get back with her slimy husband, no matter how poorly he treats her.

After her arrival, Isabel takes up a relationship with Antoine's much older uncle Edgar. He's cultured and classy, and she falls for him despite every indication that she should not. The result is a series of drawn out after-sex conversations that lead nowhere and expose Edgar as a self-absorbed jerk. Isabel, however, doesn't end up looking very good either, coming off as a woman willing to cheapen herself for Edgar and accept lavish gifts in return. The sisters' lack of any self respect is off-putting. The most engaging character in the film is Tellman, a mysteriously intriguing, yet brief character played by Matthew Modine. Tellman begins to pop up after his wife begins an affair with Antoine. What he wants is never really clear. He's desperate and ready to snap at any point with a true sense of vulnerability and sadness that come through in every short scene he appears in. His body language and speech are erratic and confused, and reflect a depth that no one else bothers to display. His spastic behavior is slightly out of place in the film but is a welcomed change to the snail's pace the rest of the plot follows.

That was enough for four movies right there, but even more unnecessary elements are tossed in. Glenn Close wastes time as another American artist in Paris whose presence in the film adds about as much support as an armchair made of mashed potatoes.

Despite all of this, the film could have been saved with an interesting examination of the cross-cultural relationships within the film. Instead the film paints cultural generalizations in wide strokes rather than taking time to develop realistic comparisons.

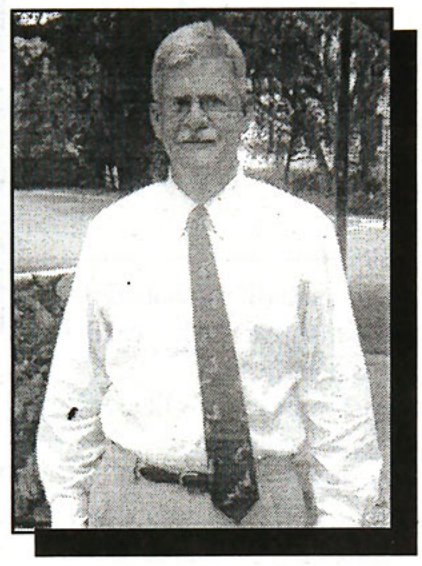
Other News

The summer brought new faces to Saint Leo

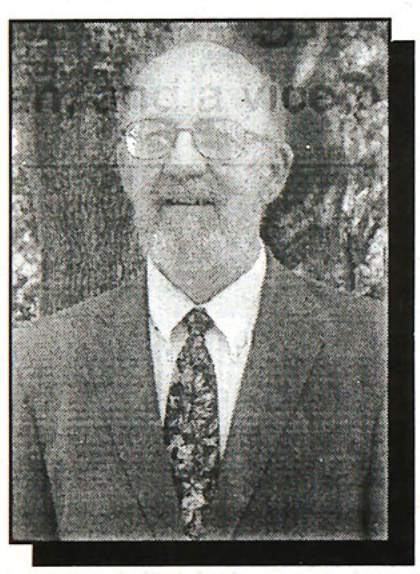
Two directors, a dean, and a vice president join the ranks at the University.

BY PUBLIC RELATIONS
A special to The Lions' Pride

James M. Barrens



Dr. John D. Smith



Dr. William T. O'Hare

Susan Peirce

James M. Barrens

James M. Barrens became the first executive director of the Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies on July 1.

Barrens joins senior religious advisors Father Michael Cooper, S.J., S.T.D. and Rabbi A. James Rudin, D.D., in leadership of the Center along with Retired U.S. Marine Brigadier General Thomas V. Draude who serves as chair of the board of directors.

A veteran in the field of interrelations and civic affairs with deep roots in both the Catholic and Jewish communities, Barrens is the former executive director and lead organizer of Congregations United for Community Action, a coalition of religious congregations committed to social justice headquartered in St. Petersburg. Barrens also served as manager of training programs and senior instructor with Tech Data Education of Clearwater, Fla. His efforts toward human and civil rights, reconciliation, and interreligious dialogue have been recognized by such diverse organizations as the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Hadassah, and Leadership Florida.

Founded in 1998, the Center for Catholic-Jewish Studies is a continuing collaboration of the American Jewish Committee and Saint Leo University to promote understanding of Catholic and Jewish traditions through conferences, town hall meetings, congregation dialogues, lectures, publications, and other related activities. The Center concentrates its efforts on promoting interreligious dialogue, building mutual respect and understanding, addressing historical conflicts, and educating the public on the philosophical and theological understandings of the two faiths and their impact on modern society. The next annual conference, entitled "Coping with Adversity and Loss: Jewish and Catholic Responses," is scheduled for November 9 and 10, 2003, at Saint Leo University.

Dr. John D. Smith

The second director appointed this summer is Dr. John D. Smith, who is the new director of Saint Leo's Graduate Education Program. The program offers a master's degree in educational leadership which helps teachers develop advanced administrative skills to prepare for higher level leadership posts within the school system.

Prior to joining Saint Leo, Dr. Smith served 32 years in the Marion County (Fla.) school system as a teacher (1971 to 1980), principal (1980 to 1992), superintendent (1992 to 2000), and director of the HRMD program (2000 to 2001). He then joined Saint Leo in 2001 as an assistant professor of education at the University's Continuing Education Center in Ocala, Fla.

"Dr. Smith knows the issues of leadership in Florida schools. He excels in theory and practice, bringing us a rich perspective from the field to train Florida's next leadership," said Dr. Astolfi. Dr. Smith will maintain offices at the University campus just north of Tampa, Fla., and at the Ocala Center at Central Florida Community College to better service Saint Leo's education students.

Smith received his bachelor's degree in education from Georgia Southern College and both his master's and doctoral degrees in educational leadership from the University of Florida.

Dr. William T. O'Hare

The School of Arts and Sciences welcomes Dr. William T. O'Hare as the new dean, effective July 1. Dr. O'Hare brings 18 years of higher education leadership to the University, most recently serving as academic vice president at Rockford College for nine years and as academic vice president at the College of Great Falls for nine years.

"O'Hare has a deep understanding of Catholic values-driven education in a Catholic tradition," said Astolfi. "He will increase the focus on academic excellence with students and faculty, improving the learning environment on and off campus."

O'Hare will oversee the arts and sciences programs and faculty and will be responsible for the University's core curriculum. The School of Arts and Sciences trains majors in the fine and performing arts, the humanities, the social and behavioral sciences, and the physical sciences.

O'Hare received his bachelor's degree in philosophy and French from the College of Great Falls and his master's and doctorate degrees in philosophy from Marquette University. In addition to his extensive experience in academic administration, Dr. O'Hare also taught in undergraduate and graduate programs for 12 years.

Susan Peirce

Last, but certainly not least, is Susan Peirce, who is the new vice president for University Advancement, effective July 7.

Peirce brings 19 years of higher education development experience to Saint Leo, most recently serving as associate vice president for advancement and capital campaign director at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Fla. While at Florida Atlantic, Peirce provided strategic direction and staff leadership during the university's capital campaign which raised $200 million, exceeding the university's $100 million goal.

"We are excited to welcome Susan Peirce to Saint Leo," said Dr. Kirk. "Her extensive experience in higher education fundraising and her knowledge of advancement programs will be an invaluable asset as we begin the first comprehensive campaign in the history of the university."
Prior to serving at Florida Atlantic, Peirce held leadership positions at Northern Illinois University, Villanova University, Chatham College, The Pennsylvania State University, West Virginia University, and the West Virginia University Foundation.

"I am honored and delighted to join Saint Leo," said Peirce. "The student-centered, values-oriented culture of the university is important to me. I look forward to helping realize the resources needed to continue the great progress already made at the university."

As vice president at Saint Leo, Peirce assumes the leadership of the University Advancement division as the University moves into a comprehensive fund-raising campaign to increase the University's endowment, support the construction of new student housing, build a new school of business, enhance academic programming, expand the student center, and upgrade athletic facilities. No goal has been announced for the campaign, which is now is its initial quiet phase, but working numbers ranging from $15 million to $25 million have been reported.
Peirce earned her master's degree in educational leadership and educational policy studies from Northern Illinois University and her bachelor's degree in communications from Chatham College.

Sports

Soccer season kicks into action

Lack of experience is the main concern of SLU soccer coach Reidy.

BY WALT RIDDLE
Sports Information Director

SAINT LEO - Fran Reidy has never beat around the bush when it comes to talking about his men's soccer teams during the 16 years he has led the program at Saint Leo University. And this year is no different.

He is quick to point out the team's positives. He uses words like committed, work ethic, depth, confidence and some experience.

However, the two-time Sunshine State Conference coach-of-the-year is also not shy about sharing a couple of question marks, like not enough experience and veteran leadership. The Lions have only two seniors in forward Mike Rosso of Tarpon Springs, FL and defender Dane Fernandez of Lutz, FL.

Fernandez started 11 games before being lost for the season with an injury, while Rosso started one game.

"In comparison to other teams in the past, this group is willing to work as hard as any group I have had," said Reidy. "If success equals commitment and work ethic, we are in good shape. But can we overcome our lack of experienced upperclassmen and be in a position to tackle the schedule we have, is the big question.

"Our schedule has three early tests in the University of West Florida (September 12 at home), Nova Southeastern (Sept. 17 at home) and Lynn University (Sept. 21 at home). This is in a 10-day period and will speak volumes for the season by how we handle this stretch."

The Lions were 10-7-1 last season and 3-4 in the SSC (fifth place).

Saint Leo returns its No. 1 scorer in junior forward/midfielder Tony Rosso of Tarpon Springs, FL. Rosso, an All-Conference and All-Region performer, had eight goals and three assists for 19 points in 2002.

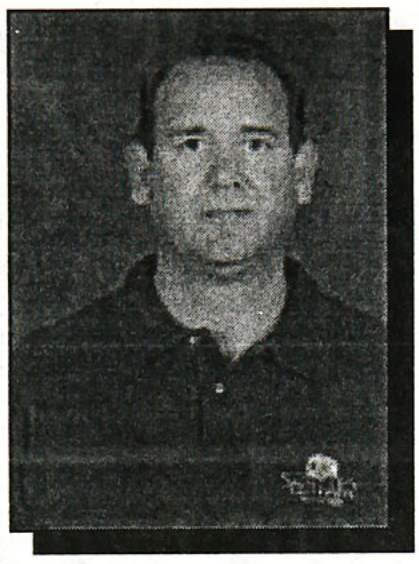
Reidy said if he decides to place Tony Rosso at midfield, this group will be the strength of the team. "Tony has great ability," said the coach. "I will determine what formation we play by how some of the new players perform in pre-season. We have depth here. We have six quality players are fighting for three or four positions.

The Lions' boss lists defense as the second strongest area. "We return players here," he said. "We lost one, but gained one back from injury in Fernandez. We also have three starters in the back returning."

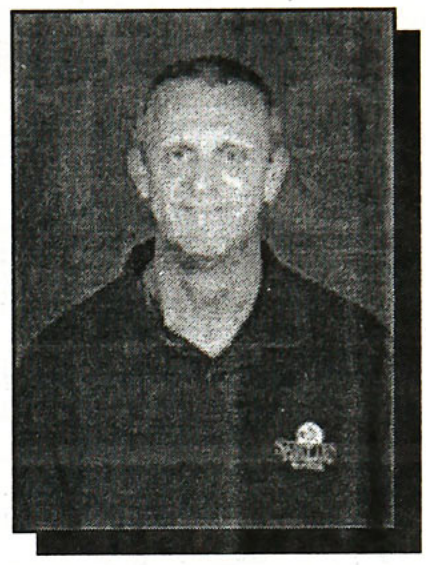
Where the goals are coming from at forward is a big question facing the team. "We lost our second and third leading scorers, and Tony (Rosso) can't do it by himself," he said. "If we decide on a formation with two forwards, we need four. If we play three up front we need six for depth purposes. And these spots are pretty wide open.

In goal, the Lions have redshirt sophomore Matias Perez of Miami, FL. "He was great in training in the spring, but hasn't been in a game situation in almost two years and there is some rust there," pointed out Reidy. "He is the key. Matias is going to get competition from a freshman (Sam Luedke of Deltona, FL) and a sophomore (Jeremy Chambers of Tampa, FL)."

Reidy feels comfortable with the new rule for limited substitution where players can't return in the same half if they are taken out. "We have depth to deal with this and also have players who are prepared to go 90 minutes," he said. "If we have to sub because of weather conditions early in the season, I am fine with this, also."



Fran Reidy



Tony Paris

"They have gone through the very difficult times. They have crawled before they could walk and walked before they could run. And now they are ready to leave their mark. The seniors realize they need to go out with a bang. Coming off three losing seasons is always a challenge. I know the group tends to think maybe we are going to win more games. My job is to convince them that we will win more games and actually have a winning season in 2003."

The Lions were 3-13-2 overall last year and 1-9-2 in the Sunshine State Conference.

"Our schedule was murder last year, playing Christian Brothers, Barry University twice and Lynn University twice," said Paris. "The Conference has dropped the home-and-home schedule this year, returning to playing each team once. We have a more realistic schedule, one we can live with and win with."

Paris said maturity is present this year. "We have brought in our strongest recruiting class ever," he said. "This adds depth to our squad. We appear to have a cover for every position. We are two deep in every position and that is a good problem. Everyone can play, which is really a first for us here."

Paris said the team must be tighter on defense and finish more on the offensive end. "We gave up 46 goals and scored only 16 last year," he said. "We need to cut our goals allowed in half and double our goal production."

The veteran coach feels midfield is where the game is won and lost. "This is an area where we have been questionable each year, but we are better here with new quality players," he said. "And we have the most speed we have ever had up front and this will be an asset in the midfield. I haven't decided if we will use two or three forwards in our formation this year.

"Our defense has matured. Not many folks are going to get over us, because the majority of players have two to three years back there. I am very comfortable for the first time in the net with (junior) Amber Ferrol (Clearwater, FL) back there again and a wonderful freshman in Katie Stephenson (Kileen, TX)."

Fitness becomes a key word for everyone, according to Paris when the new limited substitution rule is talked about. "I don't like it, because not as many players can gain field time," he said. "Not being able to return in the same half after you come out, makes it tough on programs like ours, still trying to make the break through. We have had several discussions with the players about this."

Seniors seek to leave women's soccer program in winning mode

It's Year Four of the Saint Leo University women's soccer program, and for four seniors it's a time that's the most important year of their amateur careers.

Defender Angie DeAngelis of Spring Hill, FL, midfielder Helen Brady of Pinellas Park, FL, forward Kate McKenna of Largo, FL and defender April Sampson of Fort Myers, FL are the lone members remaining from the first recruiting class of Coach Tony Paris. A fifth senior is midfielder Kim Ciliberto of Johnston, RI, who joined the program as a sophomore.

"I could see from Day One in the fall a leadership I haven't seen before," said Paris, who has guided the Lions every step of the way. "It goes without question, this group will play a big part in the role of everything this year both on and off the field.

Wortz joins Saint Leo as assistant men's soccer coach

Dean Wortz joined the men's soccer coaching staff as coach of the goalkeepers in August.

Wortz had an impressive high school and collegiate playing career as a goalkeeper. While at River Ridge, he played in the State Final Four as a junior and senior. He was chosen The Tampa Tribune player-of-the-year for Pasco County in soccer in 1997 and 1998, and was selected The Tampa Tribune athlete-of-the-year for Pasco County in the 1997-98 school year.

Wortz was the starting keeper at Lindsey Wilson (KY) College during his four-year career from 1998-2001. The team won the NAIA national championship all four years. The team was 75-7-1 during his career where he played 6,585 minutes and posted a 0.62 goals against average with 26 shutouts. Wortz was chosen to the NAIA National All-Tournament team as a junior and senior.

Wortz played for the Tampa Bay Hawks of the Premier Development League for three years and helped his team win Southeastern Conference championships in 2000 and 2002.

Wortz is currently head girls' soccer coach at East Lake High School in Tarpon Springs, FL. He was assistant boys' soccer coach at Parlm Harbor University High School in 2002.